



2872

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HEENAN, Sidney A., et al.

Serial No.: 09/453,327

Filed: December 2, 1999

For: RETROREFLECTIVE ARTICLES
HAVING MICROCUBES, AND
TOOLS AND METHODS FOR
FORMING MICROCUBES

) Examiner: J. Phan

) Group Art Unit: 2872

)

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the

) U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile to facsimile No.

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) Eric A. Bowery

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed in this case on August 1, 2000, applicants provisionally elect, Invention I, species (5), as identified in paragraph 4 of the restriction requirement.

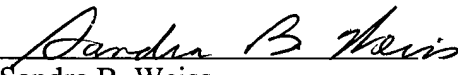
For the record, applicants respectfully point out that species (1) as identified by the examiner is but a special case of species (2), wherein the parameter identified as "slip" is set at $s=0$. Applicants further point out that species (3) identified by the examiner, namely, rectangular micro-sized cube corner elements canted such that one of the cube faces is triangular, is but a special case of species (4), namely, rectangular micro-sized cube corner elements having various cube axis cant values, such that the indicated cube corner face is either triangular or pentagonal. This is clearly illustrated in Fig. 28.

Species (5) as identified by the Examiner is the embodiment of Fig. 29. As explained in the specification in the paragraph spanning pages 60-61, this embodiment relates to an array of rectangular microcubes particularly suitable for use in sheeting to be used in retroreflective pavement markers. Figure 30 illustrates a perspective view of the same embodiment.

Article claims that can encompass the embodiment of Figs. 29 and 30 include 1-13, 18, 26, 29, 30, 91-93 and 94.

It is respectfully requested that the above-identified claims be considered on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,


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